

# PATIENCE



## ICE BREAKERS

- ☆ Do you have any “pet peeves”? Share.
- ☆ Do these things irritate you?
- ☆ Do these things shorten your fuse with others?



## READ Galatians 5:22-23

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

- ☆ Would you consider yourself a patient person?

**NOTE: Patience = “steadfast under provocation” or steady while being provoked. If you have been to Amish country, you probably have seen big work horses or an ox yoked to a plow. The beast is steady as it moves forward. It doesn’t complain or get angry when the plow hits rocks, stumps, or heavy soil. The patient beast moves steadily.**



- ☆ What kind of rocks, stumps, or heavy soil do you have in your life?
- ☆ What irritates you? Gets under your skin?

**NOTE: Rule of Thumb—**

**We need patience for people and endurance for circumstances!**



- ☆ What are some things you have heard people talk about that cause them to lose patience?

- ☆ What does this statement say to you?...  
“When patience runs out, you better watch out!”
- ☆ When you run out of patience with people, what usually happens?
- ☆ Does patience and our words tie together? How?
- ☆ Is patience something you can produce yourself? Where does it come from?
- ☆ Do we automatically display patience? Or do we have a choice?



## READ Colossians 3:12

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

**NOTE: If we are to clothe ourselves in it, then there is a choice! You could choose not to clothe yourself in patience.**

- ☆ Has God been patient with you?

## READ II Peter 3:9

<sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

## APPLICATION

- ☆ Are you patient with all people?

## READ I Corinthians 13:4

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

- ☆ List 2-3 people that you need more patience for/with.
- ☆ Ask the group to help and pray for each other.

